

# PRISMA hyperspectral satellite mission: first data on snow in the Alps

**Di Mauro B.**<sup>1,\*</sup>, Garzonio R.<sup>1</sup>, Bramati G.<sup>1</sup>, Cogliati S.<sup>1</sup>, Cremonese E.<sup>2</sup>, Julitta T.<sup>3</sup>, Panigada C.<sup>1</sup>, Rossini M.<sup>1</sup>, and Colombo R.<sup>1</sup>

1. University of Milano Bicocca, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Milan, Italy
2. Environmental Protection Agency of Aosta Valley, Aosta, Italy
3. JB Hyperspectral Devices, Dusseldorf, Germany
- \*. contact to: [biagio.dimauro@unimib.it](mailto:biagio.dimauro@unimib.it)

# Objectives:

- To present calibration/validation activities of the PRISMA satellite mission
- To introduce an experimental cal/val site located in the Alps
- To present a preliminary comparison between satellite and field data



# PRISMA satellite mission

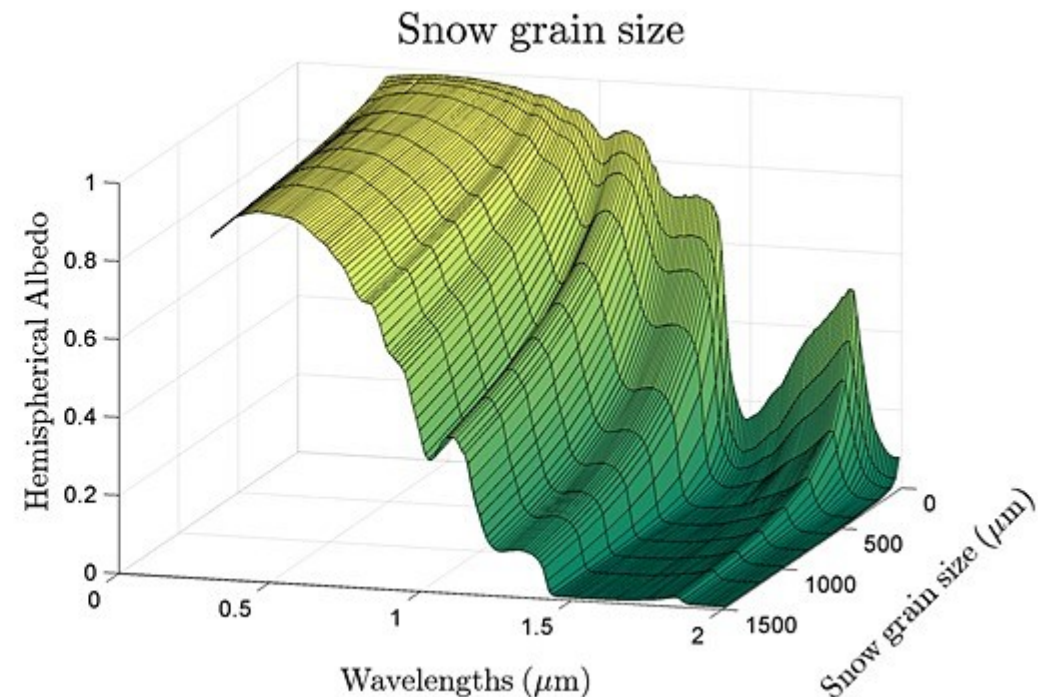
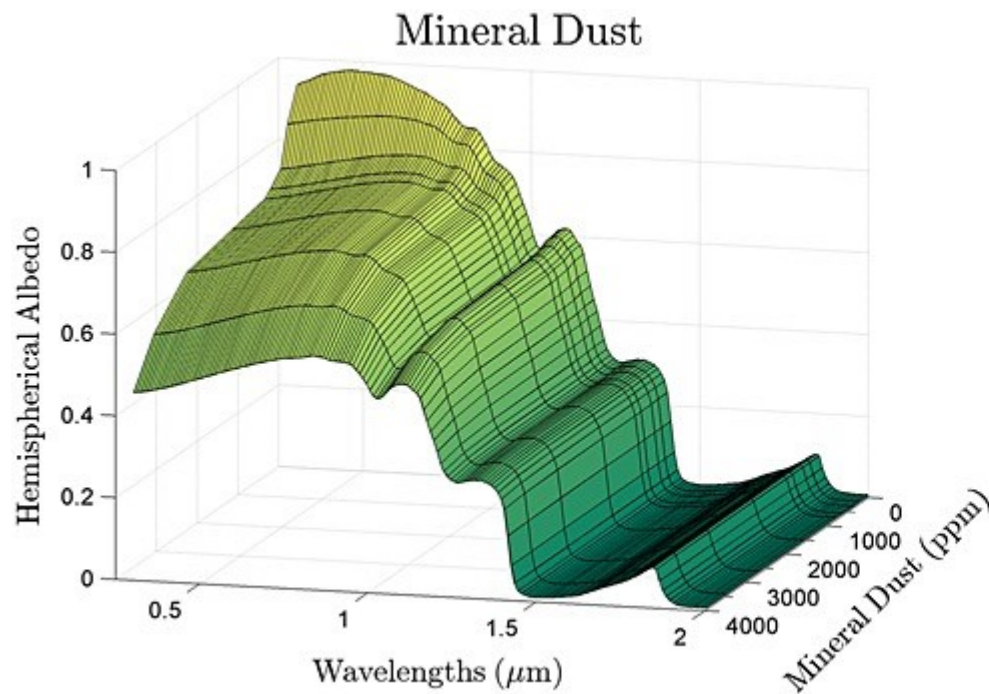
- **PRISMA** (PRecursores IperSpettrale della Missione Applicativa) is a satellite mission by the Italian Space Agency (**ASI**).
- Launched in April 2019 (commissioning phase)
- On demand hyperspectral data of Earth surface
- The imaging spectrometer features **239 bands** covering the **visible**, **near infrared** and **shortwave infrared** wavelengths (400-2500 nm) with a **spectral resolution**  $<12\text{nm}$ .
- Spatial resolution: 30m, Swath: 30 km.





# Snow spectroscopy

- Hyperspectral imaging is very important for studying snow properties such as: spectral reflectance, **broad band albedo**, **grain size**, **impurities** (mineral dust and algae), **liquid water content**, and **snow typing**



[Di Mauro et al. 2015 JGR](#)

# Calibration and validation site

- High altitude (2160 m) experimental site (Torgnon, Aosta Valley) in the European Alps.
- Snow cover duration: October-May
- Field campaigns (2020) were organized in correspondence of PRISMA overpass
- Instruments operating at the site: net radiometer, webcam, sensors for snow depth, snow water equivalent, snow surface temperature, snow spectral albedo (400-900nm)



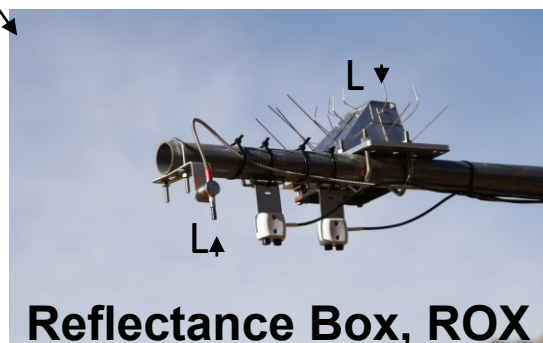


# Unattended spectroscopy measurements



- Automatic system (Reflectance Box, ROX)

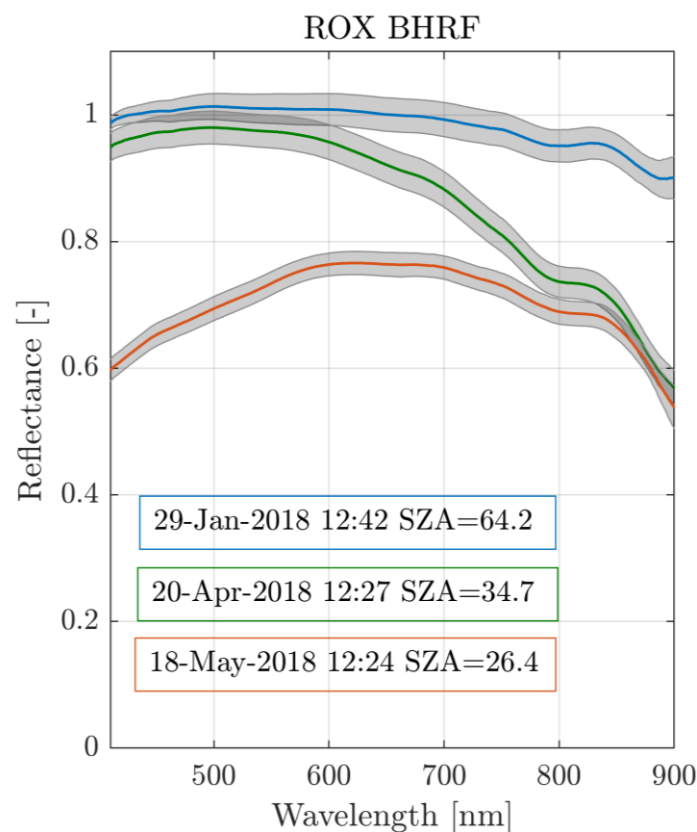
- Wavelength range: VIS-NIR:  $\sim 400\text{--}950\text{ nm}$
- Spectral Sampling Interval (SSI):  $\sim 0.65\text{ nm}$
- Spectral resolution (FWHM):  $\sim 1.5\text{ nm}$
- Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR):  $\sim 250$
- Field Of View (FOV): Upwelling radiance  $\sim 25^\circ$ ; Downwelling radiance  $\sim 180^\circ$ ;
- Signal Optimization: Automatic adaption to varying light conditions
- Dark current: Accurate dark current determination at each measurement cycle
- Automatic acquisition: Fully autonomous measurement mode
- Simultaneous metadata: Air Temperature, GPS position, GPS time
- Dust Protection Additional dust protection for Cosine Receptors



Operating since  
November 2017



# Unattended spectroscopy measurements

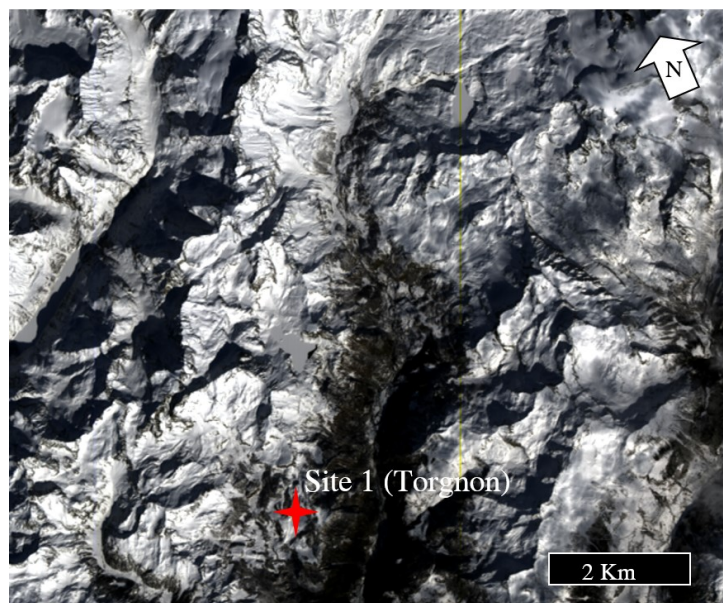


Examples of snow reflectance data in different period of the season:

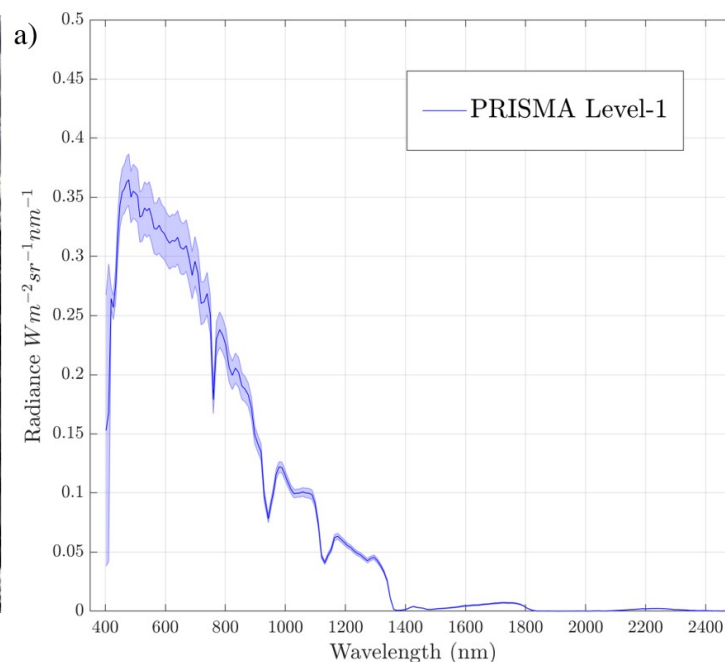
Blue = accumulation period  
 Green = ripening phase  
 Red = melting phase and resurfacing of mineral dust  
 ([Di Mauro et al. 2019 TC](#))



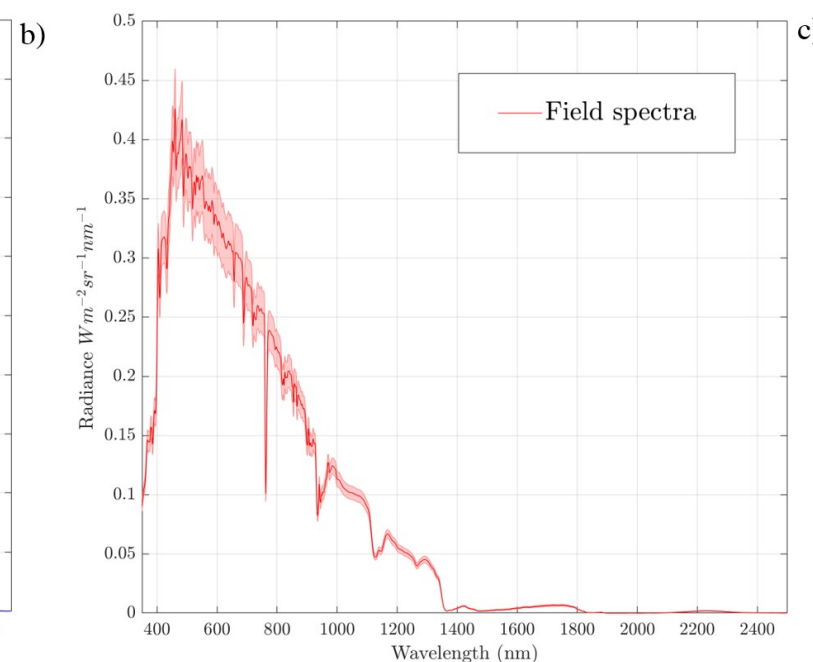
# Comparison with PRISMA data



PRISMA image (15 Feb. 2020)



PRISMA TOA radiance



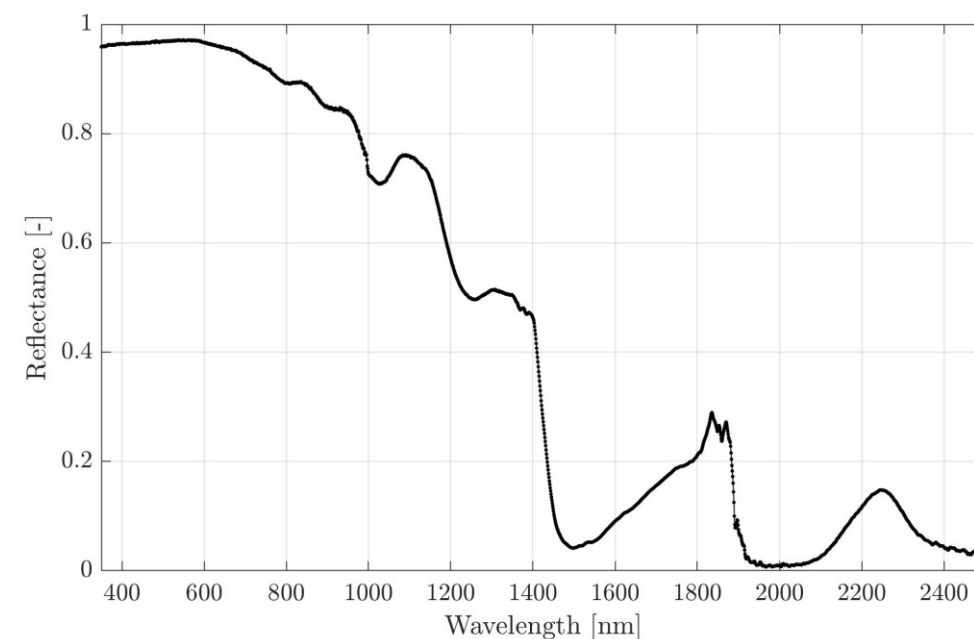
Spectral Evolution BOA radiance

- Preliminary comparison between field (Spectral Evolution field spectrometer) and satellite (PRISMA) radiance data shows promising results for the overpass of 15° February 2020



# Next steps:

- Comparison between Bottom of Atmosphere (BoA) products and field spectroscopy data
- Propagation of field spectra to Top of Atmosphere (ToA) using MODTRAN radiative transfer model
- Retrieval of snow parameters from PRISMA reflectance spectra



# Acknowledgements

- **CHRISTMAS** (Cryosphere High spatial Resolution Images and Snow/ice properties via apparent Thermal inertia obtained from Multispectral Advanced optical Systems) project funded by the Italian Space Agency (ASI).
- **PRISCAV** (PRISMA CALibration/Validarion) funded by the Italian Space Agency (ASI).

Thanks for your attention

Questions to: [biagio.di.mauro@unimib.it](mailto:biagio.di.mauro@unimib.it)